Frequently Asked Questions Regarding
the VISTA Logistical Support NOFO:

1. **Are these a new NOFO and Application Instructions?**

The NOFO is new. It is specific to VISTA Logistical training support for members and sponsors. The Application Instructions are those that were approved and applied to the 2009 Training & Technical Assistance NOFO.

1. **I did not submit a letter of intent. Can I still apply for this grant/cooperative agreement?**

Yes, you may still apply for this competition.

1. **Whom do I contact if I am having trouble submitting my application in eGrants?**

Contact the National Service Hotline at 800-942-2677 or via https://questions.nationalservice.gov/app/ask_eg if a problem arises while creating an account, or while preparing, or submitting an application. National Service Hotline hours are Monday through Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Be prepared to provide the application ID, your organization's name, and the *Notice* to which your organization is applying.

If technical issues will prevent you from submitting an application on time, please contact the National Service Hotline prior to the deadline to explain the technical issue and receive a ticket number. If the issue cannot be resolved by the deadline, the applicant must continue working with the National Service Hotline to submit via eGrants. If the matter cannot be resolved by the date and time that applications must be submitted, potential applicants are referred to the section above entitled "Late Applications."

2. **Are there Helpful Hints that I should take into account when applying through eGrants?**

    o   We suggest that you prepare and save your application as a word processing document and paste it into eGrants.
    o   Use only uppercase letters for all section headings and other information you would like to highlight in your narrative. Bold face, bullets, underlines, or other types of formatting, charts, diagrams, and tables will not copy into eGrants. Do not use any of these in your application.

- Follow the character limits. Volume will not reflect quality. (We use character limits rather than page limits because of the structure of eGrants. Characters include letters, punctuation, and spaces in the document. Your word processing software can provide a character count.)

3. **Does the character-limit in eGrants include spaces?**

Yes. But more importantly, we recommend not exceed 10 pages, which you can print out to assess the length of your submission.

4. **Is there a way we can put up an organizational chart in eGrants?**

No. eGrants accepts only text.

ELIGIBILITY

1. **Are individuals eligible to apply?**

No. Individuals are not eligible to apply for this funding opportunity.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. **In the Application Instructions there is a request for staff consultant expertise; what form do you want to see that in?**

Due to character limitations, we suggest a concise narrative form.

2. **The Special Instructions section in the Notice is noted as "not required". However, there is a section in the eGrants application for that field that has a character limit of 6,000 characters. Can we still use that space for something else?**

The Special Instructions section is not required for this funding opportunity. Applicants should enter "not applicable" or leave this field blank. Text in this field will not be reviewed.

Budget Clarification

1. **What budget information do you need for year 2?**

No budget information is required for year 2. A budget proposal for year one is all that is required for this submission.

2. **What percentage of administrative overhead is allowed in the budget?**

CNCS allows indirect costs to be charged in accordance with an established indirect cost rate. Provide a detailed budget with breakouts of direct and indirect costs. In addition, if you have a negotiated indirect cost rate from other federal grants, you should use that indirect cost rate and provide information about the agency that approved the rate. While there are no set limits, this funding opportunity is competitive and our selections will be based on the most effective use of our budget.

3. Please confirm what the match requirements are for both categories?

There is no match requirement in either category.

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

1. How should the applicants budget for staff regarding the VISTA PSOs, SOs and Leader Orientations?

For the approximately 40 PSOs, 10 SOs and 3 Leader Orientations, an applicant should budget for its staff travel, meals and lodging for technical onsite staff. AmeriCorps VISTA will manage and cover costs related to participant registration, travel, meals and lodging for these nationwide events.

2. Are there any documents to refer to in terms of desired outcomes?

The VISTA Campus provides the best overview of our training cycle, learning outcomes, curricula, and work since 2009. CNCS National Performance Measures, relative to its strategic initiatives, is available on the Knowledge Network—in this NOFO, Goal 2, Member Experience, is most relevant.

3. Must the Project Manager be familiar with Blended Curricula?

No, the Project Manager need not be familiar with Blended Curricula. You may overlook that requirement.

4. What does the Cover Sheet consist of?

The Cover Sheet is the Standard Form 424. The NOFO should not have listed them separately.

WEB-BASED & ONLINE RESOURCE

7. On what platform is the VISTA Campus built?

The VISTA Campus currently resides on Moodle (an LMS), where the blended courses will remain; however, we intend to migrate the Campus to Drupal (a CMS).

OTHER

1. **Where can we find a list of current CNCS Providers?**

    Current providers can be found at the Knowledge Network under 'T&TA Resources'.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION:

The Corporation will host a technical assistance call to provide potential applicants with an opportunity to ask clarifying questions on the requirements of this funding opportunity. Applicants are encouraged to participate in the call.

Call Date: April 16, 2013
Call Time: 1:00 PM EDT
Duration: 1 hour
Toll Free Number: TBD

For security reasons, a passcode will be required to join the call.

Participant Passcode: VISTANOFO

If you are unable to participate in this call, it will also be recorded. Replays are generally available one hour after a call ends.

Toll Free Replay Number: TBD